

Amdt. dated July 12, 2005
Reply to Office action of May 12, 2005

Serial No. 09/894,074
Docket No. STL92000094US1
Firm No. 0055.0039

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants amended the Title and Abstract as requested by the Examiner to reflect the claim amendments.

Applicants added the requirements of claims 7, 20, and 33 to claims 1, 14, and 27 to place the claims in condition for allowance. In amended claims 1, 14, and 27, Applicants added the phrase "when executing the implementation of the workflow model" to recite that the locking occurs when executing the workflow. Applicants further amended claim 33 to replace "article of manufacture" with "computer readable medium" as requested by the Examiner.

Applicants submit that these amendments proposed by the Examiner place the case in condition for allowance.

Applicants request that the Examiner make of record in this Application the art the made of record in Notices of References Cited (PTO-892) in U.S. Patent Application Nos. 09/894,413 and 09/894,076, not made of record yet in this case. These references to cite include:

From 09/894,076

Kelly Trammel, Workflow Without Fear, 4/1996, Byte.com, <http://www.byte.com/art/9604/sec8/art1.htm>

From 09/894,413:

U.S. Patent No. 6,006,193

U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0015821

U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0040312

U.S. Patent No. 6,170,002

U.S. Patent No. 6,453,320

U.S. Patent No. 6,877,153

U.S. Patent No. 5,826,086

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Conclusion

For all the above reasons, Applicants submit that the pending claims 1, 3-6, 8-14, 16-19, 21-27, 29-32, and 34-39 are patentable over the art of record. Applicants have not added any claims. Nonetheless, should any additional fees be required, please charge Deposit Account No. 09-0460.

The attorney of record invites the Examiner to contact him at (310) 553-7977 if the Examiner believes such contact would advance the prosecution of the case.

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